

REMARKS

Very thanks for Examination's suggestion and thanks for finding some citations about the present invention, thereby, the applicant may know more information about the invention. This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the office action.

Examiner has kindly provides reference prior arts about the present invention, and thus the applicant has more information about the invention. All details of the reference prior arts are fully considered and compared with the present invention.

Indeed the citations disclose some features of the present invention, and the applicant agrees with these viewpoints, however applicant discovers that some main features of the present invention is not disclosed in the citation which can form the novelty and inventive step of the present invention.

The applicant decide to cancel Claim 1, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, and add new claim 2. The added new claim 2 is based on the original claim 1 and with features of Figs. 2, 3 and 4 of the present invention. Thereby, it is assured that the new claims are based on the original claim and specification and thus no new matter is added.

COMPARISON THE NEW CLAIM 2 TO THE ORIGINAL CLAIM 1

Claim 2. ~~—4—~~ (New claim, modified from the original claim 1) An outlet joint of a flexible tube comprising:

a flexible tube body 1; an inner side of the flexible tube body having an internal tube 11; a tightening ring 12 being

installed between the internal tube 11 and the flexible tube body 1; a protecting ring 13 enclosing the flexible tube body 1;

a joint 2 including a sleeve 21 for locking one end of the flexible tube body 1; a water stop block 22 engaged in a lower end of the internal tube 11, and a water stop sleeve 23 tightly engaged to the water stop block 22;

wherein two ends of an inner surface of the sleeve 21 have inner threads 211 / 212 so that one end thereof is screwed to an end portion of the flexible tube body 1 and another end thereof is locked by the water stop sleeve 23;

wherein the water stop block 22 has ~~is~~ a tapered prolong ring; an outer surface of the tapered prolong ring of the water stop block 22 has an annular recess 221 for receiving a washer P; a screw rod 222 protruded from a top of the water stop block 22 which is received in the internal tube 11;

wherein a top surface of the water stop sleeve 23 has a receiving groove 231; one end of the inner surface of the receiving groove 231 is correspondent to the outer surface of the water stop block 22 for aligning the water stop block 22 to the water stop sleeve 23 as the water stop sleeve 23 is engaged with the water stop block 22; an outer surface of the water stop sleeve 23 is formed with external thread 232 which can be locked into one of the sleeve 21 so that after the water stop sleeve 21 is locked, the sleeve is between the sleeve and the inner tube; a thin metal ring 24 is placed between the water stop sleeve 23 and the internal tube 11 for drain-proof;

thereby, by above structure, the water stop block 23 is tightly engaged to the water stop sleeve 23 so that the outlet joint can suffer from a great water pressure.

(A) For the Prior Art of the Specification and the citation USP 2,216,468

As comparing with the prior art of the present invention, it is apparent that the novel feature of the present invention is the installation of the water stop block 22 and the related structures.

However, the prior art cited in the specification and USP 2,216,468 has no any element similar to or identical to the water stop block 22 and the related structure. Thus the prior art and USP 2,216,468 is not suitable to be used to object the present invention.

(B) For the citation EB 536493

In the following, we will discuss the novelty of the present invention over the EB 536493.

The water stop block 3 in the citation BE 536493 has no annular recess (as element 221 of the present invention) in the taper portion and thus no washer (as P in the present invention) being embedded into the recess.

The water stop block 3 in the citation BE 536493 has no screw rod (as element 222 of the present invention) behind the tapered prolong ring of the taper portion.

In the present invention, the water stop block 22 is an independent element from the water stop sleeve 21, in the citation BE 536497, the water stop block is connected to the water stop sleeve.

In the citation BE 536497, no thin metal ring (as element 24 of the present invention is used) and tightening ring (as element 12 of the present invention) are used to combined with the water stop block 3 (see Fig. 3 of

the citation).

In the present invention, the water stop block 22, sleeve 21, metal 24, and tightening ring 12 are provide with a buffer effect to the structure so as to prevent from the impact of water force to the structure. This design concept is a modern one.

However, the structure in BE 536497 is an integral structure, which is a design concepts several decades ago, which is seldom used in the current design. This is because the performance of this prior art cannot provide a preferred effect to users.

(C) For the combination of the Prior Art of the Specification, the citation USP 2,216,468 and BE 536497

The above three citations have no feature of the water stop block 22, sleeve 21, metal 24, and tightening ring 12, and thus the combination of the three citations still has no the feature of the water stop block and the related elements. This old design cannot suffer from a strong water pressure.

(D) RESULT

Since in above discussion, it is apparent that no prior art has the features of the present invention, especially in new claim 2. Furthermore, as we know that no other prior art has features of the present invention. Thus, the present invention is novel and inventive.

Applicant requests and authorizes Examiner to amend the claims of the present invention so that the claim can match the requirement of U. S. Patent. Attentions of Examiner to this matter is greatly appreciated.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed

in condition for allowance, and such action is respectively requested.

Respectfully submitted.

Chiu Chih Chung

Dated: 08 / 22 /2004

235 Chung - Ho Box 8-24

Taipei Taiwan R. O. C.

IN THE DRAWING

Please amend the drawings as the attached amended copy. In the amendment of the drawings, a number 61 is added to the Fig. 1, which is indicated by Examiner in the office action. No other portion is amended. Thereby, no new matter is added.